

TABLE TALK.

(From One Week.)

NITRO-GLYCERINE, concerning which so much quiet curiosity has lately been excited, is not quite such a novelty as has been supposed. It was discovered by Sobrero, an Italian chemist, in 1847, and was introduced into this country at least as far back as 1851. In that year we find one Dr. J. E. de Vry describing its properties to the British Association then assembled at Ipswich, and astounding the meeting with its terrible powers, made manifest by placing a drop on a piece of paper and striking it with a hammer. It is a harmless-looking liquid of yellowish brown colour, and slightly sweet aromatic flavour; if swallowed it produces violent headaches. To manufacture it the chemist takes strong nitric and sulphuric acid, and mixes them with ordinary glycerine, afterwards stirring the mixture with water, when the destructive fluid is precipitated as a heavy oil. Nobel, a Swedish engineer, first applied it to blasting purposes in 1864, and now it is so used in all parts of the world; the extent to which the manufacture is carried must be alarming. Various reports have given its explosive energy as from five to twelve times that of gunpowder. Familiarity with the use of it evidently breeds contempt for its deadly power. While the report of the Newcastle explosion is fresh in our minds, there comes news from America of a still more dreadful catastrophe, brought about by the utter carelessness of a workman employed in making a railway cutting in New Jersey. A canister of the explosive had become congested by cold, which it does at 40° F., and to safely draw the stopper the fellow took the canister to a blacksmith's shop, and placed it in a vessel of water. To warm the water he thrust into it red hot bars of iron. In an instant the oil exploded, blowing the shop, its contents, and tenants, so completely to atoms, that no trace of their previous existence could be recognised. Eight lives paid the penalty for this mad freak. Nitro-glycerine is rendered harmless by solution in two or three times its bulk of wood naphtha; when required for use it is only necessary to add water to the solution, when the oil separates in all its integrity, and can be drawn off for use. The explosive has several "aliases," amongst which are "glacoline," "nitrooleum," and "blasting oil."

Science is continually turning out new compounds of such fearful energy for mischief as would appal any but a scientific man, especially when he has not found out the way to control them. So the new combination of ideas to which social and political change have given rise has concentrated in certain classes of the community terrible latent forces capable of bursting forth with the direct result, not to be controlled by any political wisdom yet at hand. Place the one at the command of the other, and the probable outcome must give us pause.

To destroy society to get a better place in it is a scheme truly Hibernian; and one which only an Americanised Irishman would have had the conceit to attempt.

Among the means adopted for recruiting the Fenian funds, it is said that money was collected under the guise of Peter's pence. Meaning, of course, salt-petre. There is a colour much in vogue just now called *Céladon*. It is a sort of dull sea-green—something like green jade; and it plays a prominent part in all French decorations; but chiefly in porcelain. I never met an Englishman who knew the meaning of the word, and I have asked dozens of Frenchmen to explain it, without success. Yet the explanation lies on the surface. *Céladon* is the name of a personage in D'Urfé's romance of *L'Astrée*, distinguished for the extravagance of his love, and from him any languishing lover—soft even to stupidity—came to be called a *Céladon*. When the tint of a dull sea green was brought under the notice of the fine ladies of France they said that here was their *Céladon* again. It was a tint characteristic of him,—it had all his tenderness, his heavy sort of tenderness,—and it should be called *Céladon*. *Céladon* is a colour that has reached the point of tenderness, but it is the tenderness of a neutral tint that does not pretend to be lively.

Professor Church recently made a curious communication to the Chemical Society about the colouring matter of birds' plumage. A certain bird known as the Cape Lory, the *Touraco albobrunneus* of ornithologists, has upon its pinion feathers some crimson spots popularly supposed to be blood stains. Mr. Church has extracted the dye from these and analysed it; and, strangely enough, finds that it contains the metal copper in some organic form of combination. No other parts of the feathers besides the red stains gave any trace of the metal. Further experiments are stayed for want of materials. Only a grain and a half of the pigment is procurable from a single bird, at the cost of half a guinea; so that there is not much fear of the poor bird being hunted for the riches it will yield. Perhaps, however, some other specimen of the air carries more precious gifts upon its wings. With the foregoing facts before us we may expect that we shall get the pearly from the oyster we shall some day obtain its setting from the golden plumes of a bird?

Country-fair jugglers exhibit a little instrument which they persuade their dupes will enable them to see through a brick or a board or any other equally opaque body, whereas the fact is that the magic contrivance consists merely of a number of hidden mirrors so arranged that the observer actually looks round the obstruction. Without any magic or jugglery, however, a method has lately been found for virtually looking into the interior of a mass of iron, in order to detect cracks or flaws in its structure. A compass needle is the searching eye. It is well known that any mass of iron held at a certain inclination to the magnetic equator becomes temporarily a magnet. If the structure of the iron be perfect, *i.e.*, without breaks of continuity, either external or internal, the mass will behave just as an ordinary steel magnet, and will deflect compass needles passed around it in a regular and orderly manner. But if there be breaks of continuity there will be corresponding breaks of magnetism, and the needle will be vagarious in its behaviour, always performing some unmethodical movement just at the spot beneath which the flaw is situated. Mr. Saxby, R.N., lately proposed to apply the principle to the testing of iron forgings and castings: his proposal was favourably reported on by the Astronomer Royal, and a series of experiments to determine the validity of the process has been prosecuted at the Chatham and Sheerness dockyards. These have been eminently successful as far as they have gone, and give great hopes that one of the greatest difficulties mechanical engineers have to cope with, that of ascertaining the perfection of a weld or the soundness of a casting, will ultimately be removed.

A correspondent who has gone to Abyssinia gives a strange account of the Post Office at Suva. Read it in his own words. "Arrived at Suva about 2.30 p.m. Most disgraceful mismanagement on the part of the Post Office, or

the P. and O. agents. Regular scramble for letters from England and India. All a mere chance whether you ever get your letters or not. Anybody goes and helps himself to whatever letter or letters he chooses to pick out; they are all heaped into an old box without a lid—none there to superintend; every one scrambling away at this box; intense excitement; many letters torn to shreds."

He also gives a pleasing account of the condition of one of the steam-vessels that ply on this route. "Two steamers awaited us," he says, "the *Mooltan* and the *Bengal*. The former is a splendid screw, the finest in the service. The other is a wretched old tub, hardly fit for service. We have to escort her all the way, for fear she should break down." Again: "The *Bengal* passed under our stern—we are doing half speed to let her keep up." Yet again: "Bengal about twelve miles off, making as usual a prodigious smoke." Once more: "Bengal about fifteen miles astern." The *Bengal* seems to be the very ship we want to help us on to another Balaklava.

Another correspondent: "Have you ever had your hair singed? That is the last new invention of the hair-dresser. I went to Marah's the other day to have my hair cut, and was much astonished when I was asked if I should like also to have it singed. 'No thank you,' I said at once and decidedly, feeling rather offended at the notion of being treated like a horse. But then I remembered that the Hottentots are after all a civilised race of beings; I proceeded to inquire further into this matter; and in the end I had my hair singed for eighteenpence. The attendant lighted a long taper, and taking the hair upon his comb tuft by tuft as he had already done in cutting it, burnt all its extremities. The supposition is that the hair so treated is sealed up at the points, becomes more moist and vigorous, and also less liable to split. About this I know nothing. But the process was new to me and I thought it worthy of a note."

A third: "Can you tell me what is the law of supply and demand which makes truffles in London about three times the price of what they are in France? I am addicted to truffles, and now after the frost has set in is the time for them. But why must I pay fourteen shillings a pound for them at the only shop in London where they can be had good, when I see that in France they are selling for five or six francs?" It is not easy to understand the mystery of the prices charged in London for French goods. One of the most singular vagaries of price will be found in the book-trade. By paying ready money we can get a reduction of twopence from every shilling in the price of any English book—that is to say, the shillings will be charged to us as francs. But when we buy a French book, there is a shilling charged to us for every franc which the volume fetches in Paris. Express the difference in the form of a percentage and it comes to this: that the London booksellers allow their customers a discount of nearly 17 per cent on the price of English books, and lay on a premium of 20 per cent on the price of French books.

The Westminster Play is always performed in a dormitory. I know some plays more modern than Terence's, and some actors older than Westminster boys, that would in such a theatre be the right things and the right people in the right place.

Carol at my elbow observes, "If the municipal authorities had not been so vigilant lately in a certain northern town, instead of a diabolical limited catastrophe, science would have been able to contemplate a New Castle in the air." This pun is too obvious; but it reminds me of one of the most extraordinary attempts at rhyme in the English language. More than a dozen years ago a certain Sergeant Longlands was supposed to be possessed of poetic fire, and was induced to publish a poem called "Othello Doomed." The Moor, dying, was supposed to have departed to a place as sooty as himself. The moment he arrived, being in an exceedingly bad temper, he began to curse all round. He cursed the locality, he cursed his companions, he cursed the extreme heat of the apartments. Then suddenly he stopped to correct himself. It occurred to him that in such a domicile, anathemas might be a needless superfluity. "Oh," said Othello, as imagined by this untutored genius—

"Oh, but I am sending coils to Crotus New."

And how, Rochester, answered he you?"

People talk a great deal at the end of the year about making both ends meet. Why not make one of them drink?

An extremely witty man said, the other evening: "Christmas time makes all candid, from orange peel to pouter's lips. I most humbly confess that I did not at once see the point of this. Laborious study has at length revealed to me the meaning of it, and I now quote it as a curious example of the intricacy of wit which the modern school of punsters affords. How can orange peel be candid? By means of the sugar which crystallises on it. How are pouter's lips candid? Because at this particular season they like to show their game. But this is to darken sense, to make wit an occult science, and to make necessary for all heads that surgical operation which Sydney Smith deemed to be requisite only for the Scotch."

Happier is another Christmas saying of the same wit. "It is the blessed season of peace and goodwill. Yes: all men are brothers—Cains and Abels."

It is also the blessed season of crackers and mottos. May I conclude this rambling conversation with the motto of "Once a Week," suggested by its title—a good Shakespearean motto, which we hope may prove to be not inappropriate?

"What, keep a weak away? Seven days and nights? Eight-score-eight hours? and seven's almost hours. More tedious than the dial eight-score times?"

O, weary reckoning!"

Flattery, besides being far more palatable than just praise, is really more honest. Your flatterer makes little or no disguise of his desire to please you, and to make you pleased with yourself, at the sacrifice of his own dignity and many other things. But when Sir Hubert Stanley magnificently does out his approbation which you are to consider "praise indeed," his thoughts are bent on himself and his own righteousness and impeccability, while he just as keenly expects to be paid for his commodity in admiration of his uprightness as the flatterer who fawns for favours more material, but not a whit more corrupt.

The busy genius of modern benevolence has hit on a minor vent for itself of most peculiar, and to my mind, infelicitous nature. This is to send round the begging-box for funds enough to furnish forth one simple meal to so many head of usually starving urchins, and there an end. Distend their little corporations once with what they would call a good blow-out, and then leave them to collapse into a flaccid and more bitterly hopeless yearning.

Show them for an ecstatic moment the land of plenty; then drop them back into their own bleak and barren region—so many little Tanталuses, steeped to the lips in remembered beer, and gazing longingly at retrospective beef and pudding. We have heard of a One Wine Company without

knowing what it meant; but this Pseudo-Philanthropic One Dinner Company—very limited—plainly and intelligibly a bubble to delude kind-hearted adults and hungry babies.

There was a Norwegian kitchen exhibited in Paris this last year, which was a curiosity in its way. It was a small box well coated with non-conducting substances, on the principle of a refrigerator; only, whereas the object of a refrigerator is to keep the heat out, that of a Norwegian kitchen is to keep it in. Boil water for five minutes and put it into this box. At the end of many hours it will be found to have lost little of its temperature; and meat immersed in the water will be found in due time perfectly cooked. All this is so well known that I need not have repeated the facts. But I remember that the Norwegian kitchen has been praised chiefly as a boon to the poor man. He can cook his dinner with his breakfast fire; he need not have the expense of keeping up the fire till dinner-time, nor the trouble of tending it. The Norwegian kitchen needs no care. Five hours after the meat has been boxed up in it, the dinner is ready. But the same apparatus may equally serve the needs of richer men. The other day, at a covert side, we had a hot luncheon out of one—stewed beef, and *poulet au vin*. The beef and the fowl had in the morning been put each in a tin with boiling water; the tins were put into the Norwegian box; the box was carried to the covert side. That was all. At luncheon-time, we had our victuals smoking hot, and cooked to perfection.

There is, by the way, another contrivance about which great things are promised. Dedicating eggs, which will preserve all the properties of the fresh article for an unlimited period, so as to come into the provision market many months have elapsed. A patent has recently been secured for the drying process, and a company in New York has purchased the invention, to work it commercially. The eggs are broken into a trough and beaten up; a number of metal discs are dipped into the albuminous liquid, and become coated with it; these are lifted out and submitted to a current of hot air, which dries the film upon them; and then a number of scrapers come into action and flake off the egg in the form of scales or granules. The preparation thus obtained is said to have all the virtues and flavour of fresh eggs, and may be used in every case where the broken eggs are required. All very fine. But one's experience of dried vegetables and other dried articles of food is not very encouraging.

Who is the author of the riddle on God? It wants polish; but it is clever enough to make one surprised that it is not more generally known. The riddle, it will be observed, is given double.

"Cut off my head, and singular I am;
Cut off my tail, and plural I appear;
Cut off my head and tail, and wondrous fact,
Although my middle's left, there's nothing there."

"What is my first? It is the sounding sea.
What is my last? It is a flowing river.
And in their mingling depths I wander free.
Parent of sweet sounds, though none be ever."

There is an old collection of figures in the year '68, which has lost date of '67:—

Last year, with the date of ominous figures,
Saw most men's affairs all at sizes and seven;
While this seems to them to be a distant moon,
But from dread and right—O, protect us, kind Heaven!

I have long been puzzled by a mystery in London which I have at length solved. I happen sometimes to stay in the neighbourhood of Bond-street, and at the small hours of the night I constantly hear, at long intervals, a strange unearthly sound, like a distant moan. When the windows of my room are open, this weird sound is regular in its recurrence; and it would not need a very lively imagination to connect it with the supernatural. Who will guess what the sound means? None but those aware of the fact that in the neighbourhood of Bond-street and Grosvenor-square there still exists the race of old watchmen—the *Charlies*—who go their rounds in the dead of night crying in sepulchral tones—"Half-past two o'clock—a fine starry night." These wonderful voices heard afar off in the stillness of the night might make nervous people shudder; but I want novelists who may read these lines not to make use of the incident as a sensation, as I happen to know of three distinct novels in preparation for which it is bespoken.

Geographical readers will not need to be reminded, though others may, that arrangements are pending for a French expedition to the North Pole, initiated by M. Lambert, and advocated by the foremost hydrographers of France. If 600,000 francs are publicly subscribed by the first of July next, the exploring ships will be at once fitted out; if not, the proposal will fall through, and the subscribed money will be returned to the donors. M. Lambert is doing his best to keep up the public interest in his scheme, and no doubt the requisite sum will be forthcoming. The idea of a tri-colour flying from the northern pivot of the globe is not one that Englishmen will relish, seeing how much they have done towards Arctic exploration; but they need not remember that in these years ago, Captain Sherard Osborn proposed another English expedition, he received no support. Perhaps, however, the French voyage may be unfruitful. Time must decide. Meanwhile, note that the captain of an American whaler, long by name, reports in a Honolulu journal that he has reached the high latitude of 73-30, and found there a comparatively summer sea, with very elevated land, apparently of volcanic character, beyond. He saw, in longitude 180°, a mountain which resembled an extinct volcano, and which he estimated at 3800 feet high. The lower lands seemed to be covered with vegetation.

Mr. R. W. Thomson, of Edinburgh, has at length at last appeared in making a steam locomotive fit for common roads. Hitherto it has been very difficult to use steam power on ordinary roads, for the chief reason—that if the wheels of the engines are made smooth, they fail to bite the road, and slip instead of rolling; while, on the other hand, if the wheels are roughened by spikes or by other means, they destroy the Macadam. The invention of Mr. Thomson, in his New Road steamer, is an exceedingly simple one, and promises to be effective. In a road engine which he has prepared for the island of Java, he has made the tyres of vulcanised indiarubber. They are twelve inches broad, and five inches thick. The engine to which they are fixed weighs between four and five tons, and yet the wheels, when moving over soft bad roads, or across a soft grass field, do not sink in the slightest degree, and scarcely leave their impress behind, owing to the elastic and cushion-like character of the material forming the tyre of the wheels. The trials that have been made with the road steamer in the vicinity of Edinburgh show that a hard rigid material is not necessary for biting power in the wheel tyres. Also that the rubber has an amount of durability beyond conception. No trace of wear has shown itself on the surface of the rubber even though the trials have been made over roads laid with material of the most testing

character, such as broken and angular flints. The engine was constructed to draw an omnibus weighing (with its load of thirty passengers) about four tons, on a level road; but in one of its trials, it succeeded in pulling up the *Waverley*, with its train of twelve and thirteen coaches. Its speed is from nine to ten miles per hour. Messrs. Fowler and Co. of Leeds, are so satisfied with what they have seen of these trials at Edinburgh, that they are about to test Thomson's india-rubber tyre system for themselves on their own traction engines. But the most hopeful token of success is this, that it is guaranteed by the name of Mr. Thomson, whose inventive faculty has already reached remarkable success. In the late Exhibition at Paris he showed a rotary engine, which is of the most ingenious description, and which has gone further than any similar attempt to show the possibility of producing such an engine—one of the chief puzzles of practical mechanics. He also, if I mistake not, is the inventor of the portable steam crane. He made this machine possible by a very simple expedient—that of placing the steam-engine on the platform of the crane as the counterpoise of the load to be lifted. The engine being then part and parcel of the crane could be moved with it at pleasure.

In the last batch of papers from New York, there is a curiosity. The *Herald* laments the extraordinary increase of suicides in America; seriously sets itself to prove that self-slaughter is a crime; and ventures to publish the arguments of correspondents who, in opposition to this doctrine, insist on the lawfulness of what is called "voluntary entrance into the other world." What does this mean? If the facts be as important as they are stated to be, they show an immense change in the Yankee character. Once it was leavened with a creed which implies a disposition utterly averse to suicide. We may speak of Calvinism as gloomy, and find other hard names for it; but, at least, it was never suicidal in its tendencies. A Covenanter could no more than a Mussulman indulge in the Happy Despatch: his first thought in religion is to magnify the Supreme will, until it almost annuls the human. For the suicidal temperament, we must look to a more egotistic faith—to that of the Japanese, for example, or to that of the French. One thing at least we know, that the French, with all their reputation for gaiety, are the most suicidal people of the world; and if the Americans are becoming addicted to suicide, as the New York papers would seem to establish, it shows that here is one point more in which they are taking after French practices. Certainly, it is a wonderful change to note in the history of a great people, that they should begin their course in prayer and fasting, as the elect who bowed in all things to the Sovereign Will, and that at length they should become notorious for their determination not to bring sinners into this world, and for the assertion of their claim to make "voluntary entrance into the other world."

Talking of suicide, we read again in the American papers that the Honorable Elijah Hise has translated himself into another existence, in plain English, shot himself, "because he could not bear to see the ruin of the American Republic." One would be sorry to impute the imitation of such patriotism; but it is certain that a good many people, here as well as over the water, would not only not see, but would avert injury to their country by following the chariot-wheels of the Honorable Elijah.

A gloomy friend of mine pretended, the other day, to be astonished at the small number of suicides; then, after a pause, he accounted for it in this melancholy but profound way: "The fact is, that by the time we have discovered the emptiness of life, living has become a fatal habit."

There is a rumour abroad, that, when the 72nd Highlanders were ordered to duty in Manchester gaol, on the occasion of the late Fenian executions, ball-cartridges were served out to them from a stock of ammunition sent down by order of the War officials. The regiment had lately been armed with the Snider rifle; but on examining their cartridges, they found them to be of the old Enfield pattern and size. Impossible to load! So that when the men made their effective display on the roof of the prison they could not have fired had the order been given, and to charge with the bayonet sent on the other hand, had been a difficult operation. The Americans sometimes mount wooden guns, dummies, to mislead the Southern forces as to their strength in Artillery. These shams they called Quakers. This is the first time that the 72nd entitled themselves to that pacific denomination.

Can the Postmaster-General give a valid reason why our penny and twopenny stamps are such embodiments of nastiness? Their colouring pigments adhere but imperfectly to the paper and with the slightest touch come off copiously in the form of a noxious and in all probability poisonous powder. The glutinous mixture on their backs is so nauseous that one shudders to think what it can be made of. And a large proportion of these pernicious counterfeits passed down the throats of stamp users, who must in consequence be subjected to a process of slow poisoning by the continuous dosing. True there are several devices for damping adhesive labels, but who uses them? We dare assume that ninety-five per cent. of the stamps consumed throughout the kingdom are wetted in the mouth. The higher priced labels are free from the deleterious qualities; so are the penny stamps of the Inland Revenue Department; so are the cheap stamps over all the rest of the world. What excuse has our Post Office to offer for refusing us a class of labels more decent and more creditable to a civilised country? Expense is an excuse out of the question, seeing how small the extra cost of better ink and gum would be, and how large the profits—a million and a half a year—netted by the Postmaster-General.

Pantomimes are extinct. The craft to construct this ancient kind of drama is lost. The so-called pantomime is a hybrid monster with the head of a burlesque, to which is added an accented mummery as a tail. This tail is called "the comic business." To afford some idea of what the "comic business" used to be, hear how Grimaldi treated a scene. The prompter in dismay informed the great mime that certain tricks were not ready, nor would be so for at least five minutes. Grimaldi reflected a moment, looked round, saw a pot of porter in the prompter's box. "A right," said he, "send on a boy with that tippie!" On went the clown, and following him the boy. Grimaldi stooped the liquor, and dispatched the bearer. He proposed to drink it. Conscience arrested him. A discussion ensued in gesture between him and Conscience. The discussion grew hot. They quarrelled. He proposed to fight Conscience for the porter. Down he put the pot on one side, and the fight began. At the end of the second round, he took a pull at the liquor. At the end of the third another refresher. Conscience put in "a nasty one" in the wind. He recovered himself by another application,

and so on, until when at last Conscience was declared winner, the pot had been emptied. By this time the prompter signalled that the next scene was ready, and Grimaldi, disappointed at his defeat, drank, but repentant. Where the next scene was, I do not know.

London has been so completely pulled to pieces, sliced across, and knocked about, that the preservation of a relic of very second rate interest is something. At the upper end of Baker-street there is a house in which Mrs. Siddons resided, and in its large room which she had built for herself, in order that she might have space to rehearse her large and magnificent action—the grand school did not play as if it had been let out of a band-box. The Metropolitan Railway (the underground-railings) are making a line between Baker-street and St. John's Wood, and this house seemed to be menaced. But it has been preserved, pointed, painted, and Portman'd—it is to be an office for his lordship's agent. He might put up a mural tablet. "Here stalked the Sarah Siddons," only we never tabulate anybody but churchwardens and generous benefactors. From Mrs. Siddons' balcony, Regent's Park can be seen, and it is a local tradition that Cornwall Terrace was shortened by order of the Regent, in order that her request not to be deprived of her view might be complied with. If so, the boys at the celebrated school which forms the north end of that terrace should have an annual holiday in honour of the lady Sarah who secured them so capital a playground. As we don't seem to know when she was born, the day of her demise, 8th June (1831), will do—youngsters are not sentimental—and the Italian class would say *che Sara, Sara*.

Fine writing is become too scarce. We are deprived of our jests. I must rescue one little bit, however—the description of a woman's face; and I hope we are all grateful to M. Léon Cladel for this exquisite delineation.—"Pareilles à des turquoises montées sur cristall, ses prunelles exhalent des lueurs timides qui vacillent sous deux paupières ombragées de cils aussi nombreux et non moins bruns que les sourcils en ogive et jumeaux dont son front, fait de neiges et de roses, est encore rehaussé. Dans sa bouche, arc détendu, nid de perles ourlé de corallines, s'agit et gazouille une espiglerie sans malice."

One day last week, M. who is proud of his good memory (he might, of course, be reasonably proud of his good digestion), inflicted a recitation of at least twenty lines on an unoffending dinner party. Ironically thanked, he aggravated the offence by quoting the celebrated passage from Hallam, who, commending the learning of as much poetry as possible by heart, says, "These who have known what it is when afar from books, in solitude, or in travelling, or in the intervals of worldly care, to feed on poetic recollections, will feel the inestimable value of committing to the memory in the prime of its power what it will easily receive and indelibly retain." But the company was unconvinced, and Mr. Brooks, of Sheffield, proposed M.'s health, wishing him in Hallamshire.

The wildest piece of table-talk was surely that of the man to whom a lady complained of her upholsterer, for not having come for a table that needed repair. "Madam, he is an uncom-for-table person."

It has, I believe, been gravely asserted by a Russian author that whenever a Russian has his pocket picked in England, he is always sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment, whilst the thief is allowed to go free. However absurd this assertion may seem, there is, or at least there may be, some ground for it. It is related that some years ago, before the Criminal Justice Act came into operation, the captain of a Russian merchant vessel, whilst passing through Cheshire, had his pocket picked and his handkerchief stolen. The supposed thief, a lad, was arrested and taken before a magistrate. He was committed for trial, and the witnesses had to be bound over to appear that day fortnight and give evidence. The form of recognisance is to appear or to forfeit £100 to the Queen. To this the Russian objected. His vessel was to sail next day for Odessa. Her crew was on board, and by the terms of his charter-party he must sail. The magistrate had no choice. He could not try, neither would he discharge the prisoner. The Russian must enter into the recognisance or go to prison. The latter alternative he preferred, for then the owners of the vessel would know he was not to blame; and thus to prison he went. On the other hand, the friends of the prisoner, alleging his innocence, went before a judge at chambers, and procured his liberation on bail. At the termination of the fourteen days the sittings at the Central Criminal Court were held. The Russian captain was brought up in custody. The accused, forfeiting his bail, did not appear, whereupon without explanation the Russian was discharged after having suffered fourteen days' imprisonment. Surely a foreigner would be justified, if he judged our law by its anomalies, in doubting its wisdom and justice.

We talked of suicide last week. There is an excellent French saying: "I do not understand suicide. Life is too short for one to have time for impatience with it."

"To despise men as they deserve one must be a woman; and know them as women know them," said Madame N. "And women know," replied Monsieur B. "to esteem women at their proper value." "Still," says Madame, "you must be a woman."

Too much faith must not be put in the figures of statisticians or the assertions of bills of health. According to a report of the Sheerness health officers, Dr. Buchanan, of the Privy Council Office, has stated, after a careful examination, his conviction that there are fewer cases of consumption in his town than in any other in England, and that it is one of the most salubrious in the kingdom. Very gratifying to those who, as some wag has said, are compelled by sheer necessity to dwell there. But the absence of consumptive patients happens to be accounted for in a manner not flattering to Dr. Buchanan's perspicacity, by two medical men of the place, who state that the age is very prevalent there, and that they always endeavour to remove their patients as soon as possible to more genial localities.

Meteorologists have laboured hard to verify the popular belief regarding the moon's influence on the weather; but their researches have generally led to negative results. Mr. Park Harrison, one of the latest and most persistent enquirers into the subject, has, however, just arrived at a more positive conclusion, one which is interesting as a matter of science, and curious because it is paradoxical. The collection of a large mass of observations has revealed the fact that, when the moon is at first and third quarter, the temperature at the earth's surface is respectively above and below a certain average, so that there is manifested a tendency in the moon to warm the earth at the first quarter, and cool it at last quarter, slightly it is true, but still perceptibly. Now, at first quarter the sun has been shining a short time, and last quarter a long time, on the face of the moon turned towards the earth. Hence—and here is the paradox—the cool moon warms the earth, while the warm moon cools it. A

philosophical explanation can, however, be given of the anomaly. The fact is that the moon, by warming the upper regions of the atmosphere, lightens or evaporates the clouds floating therein, the earth's heat is thus permitted to radiate and pass away into space, and the lower strata of the atmosphere in consequence become cooled. This effect reaches its maximum at the time of the moon's third quarter, and falls to its minimum at that of first quarter, and hence the comparatively high and low temperature at these times.

A correspondent writes about the pinion feathers of the Cape Lory. I had spoken of these (January 4, 1888) as spotted with crimson. He says there are no spots: "There are thirteen or fourteen feathers in each wing, deep crimson; the last four or five taper off to deep green. I have shot these birds on the Eastern Frontier of the Cape of Good Hope, and during rain they are always found with tightly closed wings, securely sheltered from the wet. And why? Water will extract the crimson colour! a fact I have proved; for, on placing a feather in a glass, the water becomes tinged a beautiful rose colour. I believe this fact is but little known."

Another correspondent raises a question as to scientific fame: "Qui facit per alium facit pro se is a good maxim in law, and a convenient one—though with much risk of abuse—in art; but it should be expunged from the language of science, or false fame may be acquired and honours bought, not won. Here is a case in point. An astronomer at Marseilles, Stéphan by name, has gained some renown for celestial discovery: one planet of our system, at all events, will go down to posterity coupled with his name as its discoverer. It comes out, however, that instead of searching the heavens himself, M. Stéphan pays another eye to do the laborious work, and, if anything is found, puts forth the find as his own. This was actually the case with the planet referred to. Although some French savans are indignant at this conduct, the head of astronomy in France sanctions and attempts to justify it." Who is right? Of course a good deal will depend on the precise facts. Our correspondent seems to decide against M. Stéphan. But the case is by no means clear.

I find a profound calculation in one of the French papers. It is proposed to start a company in Paris to dig for gold in the cemeteries. What gold? That which has been used in stopping teeth. There are buried in Paris every day more than 125 persons. It is reckoned that of these at least ten have auriferous jaws, and that in these ten there may be an average of ten auriferous teeth. So the calculation proceeds, and Paris is threatened with a resurrection company. If the average of gold-filled teeth which the promoters of the company count upon, seem to be too great, let me state a London fact which seems to corroborate their expectations. I remember once looking into the accounts of one of the best known clubs in Pall Mall—what matters which?—the Mental, the Continental, the Alimantal, the Ornamental, or Regimental? I was much struck with one item in the annual expenditure—£10 for tooth-picks. "Tato what a nest of hollow-looking old fogies have I fallen!" methought. These be the sort of jaws in which our Paris friends expect to find the gold deposits.

There was a celebrated pigeon-shooter. He was an excellent shot; but owing to defective vision, he shot indifferently when he had no glass in his eye. There was a great match, and he (let us call him P.) was there, glass in eye. It may be that he took sweet counsel with friends; it may be that, like the Irishman, he was too clever to let any one into his secrets, and conspired by himself. But he stepped forward to take his place, and just as he raised his gun, his glass fell from his eye, struck the lock, and was smashed. He used the worst of language, but said that he should shoot. Betting instantly and largely altered, and heavy odds were laid against him. Which odds being taken, he took out another glass, and slew all his pigeons.

There is a pretty saying of Dr. Johnson's, which one may be excused for remembering in these Fenian times. "The Irish are a very fair people; you never hear one of them speak well of another."

You talk of the selfishness of bachelors; why—there is not a married couple in existence who would not skin their dearest friends to make shoes for their children.

If the proverb in *cino veritas* be correct in more than a Tupperian sense, it is a pity wine merchants don't distil a little of it out to flavour their advertisements.

A fact for teetotalers. Dean Stanley has just published a new book on Westminster Abbey. Like everything he does, it is delightfully written, with a flash of style which is in these days rare. In looking over its pages I came upon a fact which I had either forgotten, or never known—probably the latter. I should imagine that the fact is little known, for it would have been ridden to death by this time if it had been within reach of teetotal intellects. The Dean has to speak of Harry the Fifth, whom he describes as up to his time the greatest of English kings. Then he goes on to say that this great king—the Prince Hal of fame, who had caroused with the Falstaffs of his age, and knew the worth of good wine—would, had he conquered France, have destroyed all its vines, that he might put an end to drunkenness.

A pensive young ritualist stated, the other day, that he thought of adopting the tonure. "Certainly," said I, "the French proverb tells you on what heads we learn to shave."

Some painters are not altogether devoid of intellect. The following couplet was made, in the course of a single morning, by an R.A., who does not like criticism.

Read those art critics' books. Be sick. And then Would you be sicker, talk to the moon.

L'amour est mort in France. C'est un fait.

Mort de trop d'absence!—

which may be interpreted,

Love is gone quite dead in France. I fear.

"I fear."

He died of too much complaisance.

Macaulay is said to be the author of the riddle on cod, quoted some weeks ago; and the following is said to be a more correct version of it.

Cut off my head, and singular I act;
Cut off my tail, and plural I appear;
Cut off my head and tail, and wondrous fact—
Although my middle's left, there's nothing there.

What is my head cut off? The sounding sea.
What is my tail cut off? A flowing river.
And in their mingling depths I wander free.
Parent of well known sounds, though none be ever.

Here also is another good riddle built on the model:

What is my head cut off? The sounding sea.
What is my tail cut off? A flowing river.
And in their mingling depths I wander free.
Parent of well known sounds, though none be ever.

Here also

Out of my head, and let it go, sweet,
Cut off my tail, and let it go, sweet,
Cut off both head and tail, with life and spirit,
It is in the end of the world.

What is my head out for? An aspiration!
My tail? An aspiration!
But stronger than all this is my reason,
For in the end of the world I die.

The Times quoted from *Trueman's American Record* a statement that Mr. Charles Dickens has sold to Messrs. Ticknor and Fields, the copyright for America of a new story, "but," continues the *Record*, "the American copyright law, we believe, does not give copyright to foreigners. We fear, therefore, that the large sum which the publishers have paid for the work will not protect it against piracy in the States." This is an error. It is well known that the American copyright law gives copyright to residents, whether they be foreigners or not. The Act of Congress, 1831, gives an author the right to print and publish such book, provided he is a citizen of the United States or a resident therein. A foreigner may also sell and assign an unpublished manuscript to an American citizen, who, then being proprietor, may register the same in the District Court of the United States as his property. In such case, Messrs. Ticknor and Fields may become as fully possessed of Mr. Dickens's book as if he were an American citizen capable of registering it on his own account. But by this sale and registration the British copyright would be forfeited. As far as the International Literary Treaty between the two countries, it has been decided that the existence of copyright in the one renders such work public property in the other. Simultaneous publication is another question; the effect of this process has never been decided, but sound lawyers are of opinion that between the two stools the author would come to the ground.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

(From the Government Gazette, May 5.)
The following Hydrographic Notice is published for general information.

[The information in this notice is to be carefully considered, to be noted in the sailing directions, and compared with the chart when the vessel is navigating the parts to which it refers.]

Hydrographic Notice, No. 2.
AUSTRALIA DIRECTORY, VOL. II.

The following additional information, having reference to the navigation of the inner route to Torres Strait, and corrections for the charts of the east coast of Australia, has been received from Commander George S. Nares, of H.M.S. Challenger, 1867.

SHIRAZ XVI.
Magnetic Island to Double Point.

The Zebra Shoal, and the shoals marked "E.D." (for extensive double point, 1867) (or possibly doubtful), in its neighbourhood, have been carefully looked for in fine clear weather without success.

The discoloured water, which is very prevalent in this part of the inner route, has been, it is believed, frequently observed by the Challenger.

Northward of Brooke Islands a current sets to the northward with varying strength, dependent on that of the S.E. trade wind.

Southward of the islands the current is regular, the flood setting to the southward.

SHIRAZ XVII.
Double Point to Cape Tribulation.

A vessel coming from the N.W. in misty weather (which is very prevalent on the whole of the coast) is liable to mistake the point west of Cape Grafton for the real Cape.

This point is therefore now named False Cape, and the hill, 1371 feet high, immediately S.W. of Cape Grafton Peak, Great Hill.

The treacherous frequency of this part of the coast has lately reported a harbour a few miles northward of Double Point, but it was not confirmed by Commander Nares, Commander Simpson, R.N., who assisted in the survey of this coast in H.M.S. Challenger, states that there was only one fathom water on the bar.

The current running to the northward towards Green Island Reef and the Trinity Opening, are very dangerous, and require to be guarded against in misty weather or at night. Green Island Reef, which is a sand-bank on the N.W. of it are good marks by day.

SHIRAZ XVIII.
Cape Tribulation to Cape Flattery.

The Point of View, a low, open, flat-topped mountain, Mount Cook leads clear of C. and D. Reefs.

The Salamander frequently passed close to the shoal marked "E.D. 1867," between E. and F. Reefs, in the local mark, but it was not confirmed by Commander Nares, Commander Simpson, R.N., who assisted in the survey of this coast in H.M.S. Challenger, states that there was only one fathom water on the bar.

The current running to the northward towards Green Island Reef and the Trinity Opening, are very dangerous, and require to be guarded against in misty weather or at night. Green Island Reef, which is a sand-bank on the N.W. of it are good marks by day.

SHIRAZ XIX.
Cape Flattery to Cape Saldmuth.

Vessels proceeding by the route between No. 1 Reef (dry) and Look-out Point, should, in order to clear the shoal north of Cape Flattery and the shoal north of Look-out Point, keep the point, midway between the point and sandbank.

Round Hill kept on with "End of Range" westward of it clear, the shoal ground on the north side of Look-out Point, when Look-out Point is seen between the two peaks of Cape Flattery, keep to the westward.

There appears to be a good channel between No. 1 sandbank and No. 2 reef (covered), but it requires to be examined. No. 2 reef, which formerly appeared on the charts, does not exist.

The sand-bank on No. 1 reef, which is usually above water, but it may occasionally be covered at high tide.

All the sand banks on the reef in the inner route are not vegetated, are liable to shift; therefore, complete dependence must be placed on them as sea marks. They are sometimes very low, and water, and on again passing in a month's time the sand having been distributed over the reef, the bank is scarcely seen, even at low water.

The sand patch on the reef near Look-out Point is not readily distinguished from a number of similar ones, except when seen from the northward.

The neighbourhood of the Megara Rock, whose exact position is doubtful, and the shoal marked "E.D." south of it, Reef, has not been examined.

The rock reported off Barrow Point has been searched for without success. Commander Nares believes it to exist, having confidence in the judgment of Captain Edwards, of the ship Woodlark, who reported it.

The high reef between Cape Melville and the Channel Rock is named the Boulder Rock. It is about 30 feet high, and is a good mark for vessels from the Channel Rocks north of it.

A special look-out was kept for a newly-reported rock, between Clark Island and Cape Flinders, whilst passing the locality at low water spring tides on a fine day. Three patches of discoloured water were seen S.W. of Clark Reef, looking like rocks, but a boat was sent to examine the neighbourhood, but no shallow water could be found.

The Salamander, on Commander Nares considers the reef does not exist.

The night course from Cape Flinders round Princess Charlotte Bay requires particular attention, and is recommended to keep in 7 fathoms water, altering course as required, and the lead will guide the ship directly towards the reef, and low and wooded. This track has been tried several times by the Salamander, and never failed to fail.

The sets of the tide in the northern part of Princess Charlotte Bay are irregular, and require care. Near the Clemon Group, the flood tide sets south, and near the N.E. reef, it sets north.

The shoal mentioned in the Australia Directory, Vol. II, page 167, and said to have been seen by W. J. N. and Sandy Lake, N. by W.

SHIRAZ XX.
Cape Saldmuth to Cape Grenville.

The shoal marked "E.D." (for extensive double point, 1867) (or possibly doubtful), in its neighbourhood, have been carefully looked for in fine clear weather without success.

The discoloured water, which is very prevalent in this part of the inner route, has been, it is believed, frequently observed by the Challenger.

Northward of Brooke Islands a current sets to the northward with varying strength, dependent on that of the S.E. trade wind.

Southward of the islands the current is regular, the flood setting to the southward.

SHIRAZ XXI.
Cape Grenville to Cape Flattery.

A vessel coming from the N.W. in misty weather (which is very prevalent on the whole of the coast) is liable to mistake the point west of Cape Grafton for the real Cape.

This point is therefore now named False Cape, and the hill, 1371 feet high, immediately S.W. of Cape Grafton Peak, Great Hill.

The treacherous frequency of this part of the coast has lately reported a harbour a few miles northward of Double Point, but it was not confirmed by Commander Nares, Commander Simpson, R.N., who assisted in the survey of this coast in H.M.S. Challenger, states that there was only one fathom water on the bar.

The current running to the northward towards Green Island Reef and the Trinity Opening, are very dangerous, and require to be guarded against in misty weather or at night. Green Island Reef, which is a sand-bank on the N.W. of it are good marks by day.

SHIRAZ XXII.
Cape Flattery to Cape Saldmuth.

Vessels proceeding by the route between No. 1 Reef (dry) and Look-out Point, should, in order to clear the shoal north of Cape Flattery and the shoal north of Look-out Point, keep the point, midway between the point and sandbank.

A single low mangrove bush marks the S.E. extreme of the Piper Islands Reef, and is a good mark on entering the passage, except at high water spring tides. This point should be noted.

Advantage should be made for a strong current setting N.W. towards the Home Islands. A sailing vessel should keep well to windward after passing M. Reef.

SHIRAZ XXIII.
Cape Grenville to Booby Island.

Commander Nares recommends that the track north of Cockburn Reef should be continued to the extreme of the reef, the vegetation and bank on the north-west end of which is a good mark.

The north extreme of the Cockburn Reef is very badly defined as seen from the deck or aloft, and therefore extremely dangerous. The wreck of the "Sir A. Campbell" has long disappeared. Another wreck is on the reef two miles farther south; strangers might easily mistake this for the one marked on the chart, and haul up too soon.

As this new wreck will soon be broken up, it is recommended that it should not be marked on the chart, and that the wreck of the "Sir A. Campbell" be expunged.

There is foul ground close to the north-west end of Z Reef.

The two sand-banks in latitude 10° 57' S., longitude 143° 50' E., have a clear passage of 14 miles between them, and there appears to be some vacancies in the chart in this neighbourhood. The sand-bank marked in the chart about two miles east of the reef is placed too far west; it has two small sand banks to the northward of it, but their positions were not determined.

The Outer Barrier Reef between the Olinda and Pandora entrances is inaccurately delineated on the chart. There is no continuous reef between the two entrances, but a number of detached patches overlapping each other, which at a short distance at sea would appear continuous.

There is apparently deep water over the projecting reef in latitude 11° 30' S., and longitude 144° 40' E., but the tide race was very heavy on it as the Salamander passed to leeward.

The Pandora entrance is well defined and easily found. The sand-bank marked in the chart is placed too far west; it has two small sand banks to the northward of it, but their positions were not determined.

The Olinda entrance is the northernmost opening in the Barrier Reef, near Haines Island Passage; it is well marked by the continuous reef north of it, but this entrance cannot be recommended unless ships are very far to leeward. In entering, the reef on the north side of the entrance is kept close to the side of it, but coral mushroom heads are numerous in the neighbourhood.

The line of heavy breakers marked on the chart north of Haines Island and reefs; the Salamander passed close to leeward of them.

The light in the Great detached reef has good anchorage in 8 fathoms water, but the coral mushroom heads are numerous, and require special care to avoid them. There are a greater number of patches and mushroom heads on the west side of this reef, bordering the 100-fathom line of soundings, than are marked on the chart.

The Middle Banks-Rickwood Channel—are a collection of small patches, with apparently deep-water channels between them.

The two easternmost sand-banks are small, and are covered half tide. The westernmost bank is the largest, the 3-fathom patch S.W. of this sand-bank has deep water round it, and is dangerous, being near the line of route. Shallow water was seen half-way between the two sand-banks, and the line of route is correctly placed.

A patch of discoloured water, apparently a reef, was passed, bearing N.E. 1/2 N. from the North Hardy Island.

The sand-banks on the east extreme of Cockburn Reef, were dry at low water neaps. The shoal patches to the northward were indistinctly seen.

On passing the north extreme of Cockburn Reef it was observed from aloft to be very badly defined, and consequently indistinct; it is therefore a bad turning point.

A clear patch of water, found east of T Reef, the sand-bank, was found to be a good mark, and the passage requires further sounding.

There is, also, apparently a clear passage south of T Reef and bank, between it and the smaller sand-bank. The passage is narrow, and requires further sounding.

At the entrance of the channel, the water is very shallow, and the passage is narrow, and requires further sounding.

On the north side of the channel, the water is very shallow, and the passage is narrow, and requires further sounding.

On the south side of the channel, the water is very shallow, and the passage is narrow, and requires further sounding.

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When the straits between North and South was at its height I was wounded, and at the moment when it seemed most necessary for me to defend my country, I was struck by the way of doing so. Through the kindness of General — I received the post of —

Stop a bit. It can't matter to you what I was or where I was placed. Enough that at a certain Southern city, which fell early into our possession, there was established an office through which every one must pass and be examined before entering or leaving that quarter of Dixie's Land, and I was entrusted with an important post in this office. It was dull work to do, but the salary was good, and I was hard at work to the boys in blue and the boys in grey.

But I was thankful to do something for our side, and I tried to do my best.

One of our tank rebels were discovered to have peddled themselves with quinine, or to have despatched in their boots or up their backs, and more than one suspicious character was detained until his power of mischief for the present was over. And we were all of us, of course, laden with quinine. I had felt quite bashful and vulgar, and looked at all human beings who passed through the office as bearers of rebel secrets and information, when one day a few of our gentlemen, with a doubtful eye, came into the office to pass to visit his son-in-law.

The moment I set eyes on him I felt sure that he was a smuggler. I spoke to him sternly and he quailed. I ordered him to be searched, and he was up to his eyes in quinine. I looked at him and he looked at me, and he said, "I am a doctor, and I have been careful, for I knew him, and allowed him to get to a condition compounded of rage and alarm. 'That's an earnest rebel, Brown,' I said to my clerk. 'We must keep a sharp eye on him.'"

And then we stood at the window looking at a cloud which arose thick over the distant hills, but which was not, as we knew, the forerunner of coming rain, but the signal for a storm. We were all of us, of course, laden with quinine. I had felt quite bashful and vulgar, and looked at all human beings who passed through the office as bearers of rebel secrets and information, when one day a few of our gentlemen, with a doubtful eye, came into the office to pass to visit his son-in-law.

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ARRIVALS—MAY

19 (**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**
Attention to the following rules will ensure the

THE NUMBER WHICH GIVES THE ORDER OF THE

the first law, that of preservation. Bastian who :

10

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1. The first step is to identify the problem or question that needs to be answered. This involves understanding the context and the specific information required.



SIDNEY HADDO,		
TIME.	WINDS.	REMARKS.

NEWBRAND	9 a.m.	Bar. Ther.	3 p.m.
Brown ... SE.	Fine		
Chermont ...	Calm.	Fine	
Waverley ... SE.	Fine		
Nebo ... SE.	Fine		
Kockhampton, Calm.	Fine		
Hawkwood ... SE.	Cloudy		

Trisbane ...	SW. Fine	30 348	SW. Fine
Toowoomba ...	Calm. Fine		
Uthmaniyah ...	Calm. Fine		

Singleton	... Calm. Fine	Calm. Fine
Watland	W. Fine	S.E. Fine
Newcastle	N.W. Fine, cool	S., light.
Windsor	W. Fine	S.E., Fine
Sydney	W. Fine	S. Fine
South Head	S.W. Fine	S. Fine
Wollongong	N.E. Fine	S. Fine

..	Calm.	Fine	Calm.	Fine
..	Calm.	Dull	Calm.	Dull
..	SE	Fine	SE	Fine

May	... Calm. Fine	W. Fine
Jouliamein	... N. Light, fine	S. Cloudy
Sairnald	... NW. Fine	SW. Cloudy
Uston	... SE. Fine	SE. Fine
Ventworth	... SE. Fine	SE. Fine
Southern	... W. Fine	Calm. Fine
Trudwood	... Calm. Fine	SE. Fine

... 8E. Fine	Calm. Fine
... Calm. Fine	Calm. Fine

Greenclyff ...	SE.	Fine, cloudy	30 51	57-
Lape Schank ...	SE.	Cloudy, fine	22 57	
Lape Otway ...	SE.	Fine, cloudy	30 257	56-
Portland ...	ESE.	Fine.	30 260	59-
AUSTRALIA.				
Swichen Bay ...	SE.	Fine, clear	30 514	58-
Walside ...	W.	Fine, clear	30 285	65-

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, SYDNEY
Latitude 33° 51' 41" S. Longitude 151° 4m. 46s.

measured in inches, per square foot.	Humidity, 0 to 100
Scales of	Cloudy sky, 0 to 10.
	Onsets, 0 to 10.
	Electricity, 0 to 50.
MAY 5TH, 1905. CIVIL ENGINEING.	
Temper-	Wind.

Year	Value	Unit	Value	Unit	Value	Unit
1950	100	100	100	100	100	100
1951	100	100	100	100	100	100
1952	100	100	100	100	100	100
1953	100	100	100	100	100	100
1954	100	100	100	100	100	100
1955	100	100	100	100	100	100
1956	100	100	100	100	100	100
1957	100	100	100	100	100	100
1958	100	100	100	100	100	100
1959	100	100	100	100	100	100
1960	100	100	100	100	100	100
1961	100	100	100	100	100	100
1962	100	100	100	100	100	100
1963	100	100	100	100	100	100
1964	100	100	100	100	100	100
1965	100	100	100	100	100	100
1966	100	100	100	100	100	100
1967	100	100	100	100	100	100
1968	100	100	100	100	100	100
1969	100	100	100	100	100	100
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100
1971	100	100	100	100	100	100
1972	100	100	100	100	100	100
1973	100	100	100	100	100	100
1974	100	100	100	100	100	100
1975	100	100	100	100	100	100
1976	100	100	100	100	100	100
1977	100	100	100	100	100	100
1978	100	100	100	100	100	100
1979	100	100	100	100	100	100
1980	100	100	100	100	100	100
1981	100	100	100	100	100	100
1982	100	100	100	100	100	100
1983	100	100	100	100	100	100
1984	100	100	100	100	100	100
1985	100	100	100	100	100	100
1986	100	100	100	100	100	100
1987	100	100	100	100	100	100
1988	100	100	100	100	100	100
1989	100	100	100	100	100	100
1990	100	100	100	100	100	100
1991	100	100	100	100	100	100
1992	100	100	100	100	100	100
1993	100	100	100	100	100	100
1994	100	100	100	100	100	100
1995	100	100	100	100	100	100
1996	100	100	100	100	100	100
1997	100	100	100	100	100	100
1998	100	100	100	100	100	100
1999	100	100	100	100	100	100
2000	100	100	100	100	100	100
2001	100	100	100	100	100	100
2002	100	100	100	100	100	100
2003	100	100	100	100	100	100
2004	100	100	100	100	100	100
2005	100	100	100	100	100	100
2006	100	100	100	100		

Maximum.....	70.6	Sun-maximum.....	70.6
Minimum.....	49.3	Grass-minimum.....	49.3

Temperature of sea water, 3 feet below the surface, 1
 Denison, at 9 a.m.

Total rainfall from January 1st to May 6th—21.35 inches
 May 5, should have been 21.35 inches.

Annual average of the preceding nine years—59.99 inches

1

	Time	Date	Time	Station.	Per-	Mach-	Min-
TUDNEY ..	185	30-289	30-2	WVTV	0.3	97	6.5
DRAFTON ...							
NEWCASTLE.	196	30-125	30-2	WNW.	1-0	567	0.5
COTTE HERRA	287	30-017	30-9	SW.	0-2	573	0.3
		30-000	30-9	SAN	0-3	553	0.3

ASTRONOMICAL MEMORANDUM FOR MAY 7TH.

High Water at Fort Denison, a.m., 8 h. 32 m.; p.m., 8 h. 44 m.
 GEORGE H. SWALLEY, Government Astronomer

Prince of Wales Theatre, and was greeted with a mod-
est applause. After some few others had declined to re-

and the subjection of the patients to the power brot
near upon them. Dr. Carr gave occasional explan
and challenged detection of deception, disclaimed col
and defied competition.

MUNSON AND WINCHE.—At the Chamber of Commerce, quarter-past 2 o'clock. Wea. Showers.

WALKIN, J. H.—At the Chamber of Commerce, at a quarter-past 2 o'clock. Wea. Wood, Showers.

WALKIN AND CO.—At their Office, at 11 o'clock. Milch Cows, Calves, and Dry Cattle, at 12 o'clock. Fat Lambs, Calves, Pigs, Hogs, Mairze, Goats, Horses, Sheep, and Swine.

WALKIN AND CO.—At their Rooms, at 11 o'clock. Unmanned Flotage.

WALKIN AND INGLIS.—At the Railway Auction Mart, at quarter-past 12 o'clock. Milch Cows and Springers; at half-past 12 o'clock. Fat Cattle, Calves, and Pigs.

thing, Sundries, _____

VERANDAI COTTAGE, No. 198, CROWN-STREET
at the Junction of Berwick-lane, a few yards east
of the above street.

RILEY-STREET, WOOLLOOMOOLOO.
LARGE BLOCK OF LAND FRONTING RILEY-STREET
of a few yards north from William-street, and has
also a large frontage to Hill-avenue, together with
the following buildings:—**Woolloomooloo Sash-
Works, Shops, Stables, Sheds, &c.**, now
occupied by Messrs. HILL and SONS, Upholsters,
also allotment of land in CAMPBELL-place,
abutting on the above, in one or two lots to suit
charters.

TERMS.—One-third cash, residue may remain secured
on the property at 7 per cent.

RICHARDSON and WRENCH have
received instructions to sell by public auction
at the Rooms, Pitt-street, on **MONDAY, 11th May,**
at 11 o'clock.

The following freehold properties.

LOT 1.—CROWN-STREET.
All that piece of land having frontages as follows:—
24 feet to the east side of Crown-street,
40 feet to Berwick-lane, and 10 feet to
on which is that verandah cottage, No. 198, of
Crown-street, containing four rooms, with kitchen or
in the basement, yard, out-buildings, &c.,
rear.

LOT 2.—RILEY-STREET.
All that parcel of land having the following
ages:—
624 FEET TO RILEY-STREET,
100 FEET TO HILL-ROAD,
on which are extensive ranges, of 3-story brick
premises on stone foundations, and with slate
roofs, formerly occupied as a warehouse, and with
large yards, &c. Abutting on this is an allotment
land, having 35½ feet to Campbell-place, with a
front of about 49½ feet, which will be sold separate
and distinct.

* * * The buildings in the above large block of land
are situated and of an extensive order. They are built
from Riley-street, and could at a small expense be
converted into a number of dwelling-houses fronting Hill-
avenue, which, from the position, would readily let,
realise a certain return on the investment.

The frontage to Riley-street is unoccupied, and would
be a capital site for two superior houses, a few feet from
Hill-avenue.

In its present state the property is admirably adapted
for workshops for a manufactory, or for extensive sale
&c., with entrance from Campbell-place, leaving
Riley-street frontage for disposal, or a site for
premises.

Plan on view at the Rooms.

By Order of the Trustees of the Estate of the late Mr.
DOWLING-STREET and SUSAN-LANE,
WOOLLOOMOOLOO.

TITLE.—UNDER TORRENSS'S ACT.

RICHARDSON and WRENCH have
received instructions to sell by public auction
at the Rooms, Pitt-street, on **MONDAY, 11th May,**
at 11 o'clock.

All the corner piece of land having the following
ages:—
10 FEET TO DOWLING-STREET
79 FEET TO SUSAN-PLACE.
On a portion of which is a weatherboard Shop-house,
Weatherboard House of 4 rooms, a large stable
barn, &c.; also, fronting Dowling-street,
unoccupied office, on a slope.

The above is the only remaining unoccupied lot
of the late Mr. Black, and must be absolutely
sold in one lot, with the above Shop-house.

Dowling-street is the most valuable thoroughfare
in the colony, and this important corner block of property
is a valuable addition to the business of the colony.
It is well adapted for a timber or coal yard,
dry or cash proprietor, or as a site for further residence.

Plan at the Rooms.
Terms at sale.

**GRIFFITHS and RAY STREETS,
WOOLLOOMOOLOO.**

RICHARDSON and WRENCH have
received instructions to sell by public auction
at the Rooms, Pitt-street, on **MONDAY, 11th May,**
at 11 o'clock.

All that piece of land having 50 FEET FRONTAGE
to BAY-STREET, with a depth of about 200
extending to former high water mark of Woolloomooloo
Bay, on which are three TWO STORY
WELL-FINISHED DWELLING HOUSES,
Nos. 4 and 6, Bay-street (the latter being
as Palmerston House), containing respective
rooms, kitchen, and servants' rooms, and 7
kitchen, and servants' rooms, with yards, water,
on &c., at the rear, and large plot of garden
in front. They are built of brick and stone
work, and have a pleasant return of air and light
looking the bay. Palmerston House has
bedroom, coachroom, groom's room, &c., in the
rear, and a well-finished billiard room, which is
the only one of the kind in the colony.

RIGHT OF COMPENSATION for the
loss sustained by the property being
the **WATER FRONTAGE TO WOOL-**
LOOMOO BAY, described in the deeds,
the matter is now under consideration by the
Government.

The instructions of the proprietor (who is
resident of the colony) are to effect positively a sale
above. Upon inspection they will be found superior
substantial premises, well-fitted in every respect, and
of a pleasant return of air and light, and of
entrance to the Public Domain, Botanical Gardens, &c.

Plan on view at the Rooms.
Terms at sale.

TWO COTTAGES in Duke-street, Woolloomooloo.

T. W. BOWDEN will sell by auction
at the Land Sale Rooms, 151, Pitt-street,
THURSDAY, 14th May, at half-past 11 o'clock
prompt.

Two stone-built cottages, Nos. 36 and 38, on the
corner of Duke-street, and on a narrow lot to
Stephen-street, across Dowling-street, in the
portion of Messrs. Griffin and Melville for
the last 20 years. The cottages are built from Duke-street
Borough-street, the frontage to each street
30 feet. The houses are erected on the Duke-
frontage; the other not built on. Each house
contains 4 rooms, with a kitchen, one room
the other shingled. Rental, sixteen shilling
expense per week.

Title, freehold and satisfactory.

In the Estate of the Rev. C. C. Kemp.

T. W. BOWDEN is instructed by Frederick
A. Humphrey, Esq., to sell by auction, at
Land Sale Rooms, 151, Pitt-street, on **THURSDAY,**
14th of May, at half-past 11 o'clock prompt.

The undermentioned articles, now at Sophianburgh,
Liverpool, deliverable at that place to the purchaser
on order from 10 to 12 o'clock.

A bone mill, with two sets of powerful rollers,
weighing in all about one ton of metal, capital
weight 10 tons, and of stone, one set of
fitted up to suit with horse gear, complete—
all in good working order.

Three 400-gallon iron casks
A set of about 100
A large sieve, 5 feet x 2 feet
1 circular saw
1 machine
1 large zinc bath
About 4 tons of bone-dust.

Terms, cash.

Auction.

M. B. JOHN SHEA has received instructions
to sell by public auction, at the Rail
Hotel, Picton, on **SATURDAY, May 24th.**

All that piece or parcel of land situated at Burroughs
village, unimproved, described as follows:—At the
fluence of the Nattai and Alhim Rivers,
5 miles south-west from the village reserve of
Burroughs, commencing at the confluence of
rivers, and bounded 1 mile north-west by the Nattai
north-westerly by a large marked gum line; or
west by a line, bearing south 30° chains 50 feet
the Alhim River to the confluence of the Nattai
river downwards to its confluence with the
River aforesaid;—being the land sold as lot
purchase of the proceeds of the 21st May, 1862.

The above 20 acres of land is believed to be the
Burroughs, and being at the confluence of two rivers
contains the pasture of an unlimited number of acres
Government Land.

The land will be sold to the highest purchaser.

Title.—Purchase from the Crown.
Terms at sale.

TOONGOOBBEE.

